

ROUND THE CAPITAL

Information and Gossip Picked Up Here and There in Washington.

Elkins Wedding Rumor Stirs Capital



WASHINGTON. The all-engrossing topic of conversation in all sets of Washington society is the rumored engagement of Miss Katherine Elkins, daughter of Senator and Mrs. Stephen B. Elkins, to the royal duke of Aosta, who was the social lion for a few days last spring when he came in command of the Italian warships for the opening of the Jamestown exposition. This engagement has been rumored more or less for the last six months, but has been strenuously denied by all the members of Miss Elkins' family. The duke is the first cousin of the King of Italy, and should he marry without the approval of the royal relatives, he would have to renounce his title, one of the most honored in all Italy, and all his rights as a member of the royal family. His father, the late duke of Aosta, was for something King of Spain. He can, however, retain his royal prestige, and even the title by a special act of the Italian parliament, provided the king gives his consent to the match.

If this marriage takes place it will be by all odds the most brilliant in

international match yet made by a Washington girl. The duke is the most distinguished foreigner to come to the United States a few years, and he has won fame by being the explorer to reach the farthest point north. He is greatly interested in all things pertaining to the north pole. He headed his expedition which made this brilliant record, and has been invited in every country he has visited since then.

Miss Elkins is a typical American girl. She comes from the average gentry girl or the members of her set. Indeed, as she positively refused to be presented formally to guests at a tea, dance or other function, according to the American custom of launching young women on a social career. She just now, after the debut, after a complete preparation, as far as socializing and accomplishments are concerned, she had traveled widely during her school days, and has made trips abroad with her parents or with her mother each summer since then. She is one of the most charming girls, and skilled ships among the ladies in Washington. She is a strong, slender, athletic girl, and is equally brilliant in both studies and sports. Her father's name is John, and he is a favorite name in all secondary schools, and the Elkins always in the eastern part of the country.

Taft Is Depicted in Moving Pictures



NO MATTER what the future may hold in store for Secretary of War Taft, he has achieved fame. A few days ago his portly person was enshrined in hundreds and hundreds of films, which will go to make up a picture show presentation of a review of the cavalry and artillery at Fort Myer. Neither the secretary nor General Bell, who accompanied him, posed. They just ambled up and down between lines of artillery, powder and lenses.

It was an ideal day, and the pictures were very successful. Every

thing the secretary's horse switched its tail a camera clicked. The exchange of salutes, the spirited swing of the spurs, the crackling, and the long lines of ordnance presented a panorama alone worth the price of admission.

The Taft party was photographed from the moment it left the car to make for the post-garrison the Potowmack in the party were Mrs. Taft and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Taft.

Pictures were taken rapidly named after them, and yet no camera could capture in convention resolutions, but there is nothing so hot but fame when it reaches the moving picture stage. These films will be shown, sandwiched in among illustrated songs in all parts of the country. One thing is certain, and that is the secretary, despite the fact that he is big in body, is an accomplished horseman.

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Stephenson Now the Second Oldest Senator



BY the death of Senator William Pinckney Whyte of Maryland Senator Stephenson of Wisconsin becomes the second oldest member of the senate. When Mr. Stephenson was elected to the senate a year ago there were four senators whose age was greater than his. Senators Pettus and Morgan of Alabama died last fall, and Senator Whyte, who was born August 29, 1824, became the oldest senator. Senators Allison, Stephenson and Cullom were born in 1829. Mr. Allison in March, Mr. Stephenson in June, and Mr. Cullom in November. Mr. Allison is now the oldest senator in point of years as well as in senatorial service.

The late Senator Whyte was a stickler for the proper spelling of his name.

Only a few weeks ago he explained to one of his colleagues how it came about that he spelled his name with a y. He said that his father, who was a prominent merchant in Baltimore, was defrauded of his little fortune by some of his relatives of the name of White. It took up the quarrel that followed, said the senator, and became somewhat bitter toward the White family. One day when I was signing my name I struck out the T and inserted a y. The change pleased my family and I've continued it ever since.

Notwithstanding his advanced age the Maryland senator was more attentive to his duties than many of his younger colleagues. Frequently he was the only member of the senate who was present when the gavel fell and the senate was called to order, and thus notwithstanding that his home was in Baltimore and he made the journey to and from Washington every day. He made a virtue of punctuality, and was rarely behind time either at his office or elsewhere.

ADRIFT FOR WEEKS IN AN OPEN BOAT

TERRIBLE HARSHIPS ENDURED BY SAILORS SHIPWRECKED IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

TWO OF SURVIVORS SUCCUMB

Craft Containing Six Unfortunate Men Picked Up by British Vessel After They Had Undergone Intense Suffering

NEW YORK. A tale of the sea, riveting in horror and hardship any story of the dead ever told, was brought here the other day by William Kildarren, a seaman, who was a passenger on the steamer Voltaire, "the South American liner."

Kildarren is one of six survivors of the crew of the American ship. The

crew was applied to her that she might not continue to float aimlessly about, a menace to other ships. For a time after the start the occupants of the two boats kept each other in sight, but eventually became separated, and then it was safe for himself.

Day and night week after week, the occupants of Kildarren's boat maintained a constant watch for the sail or wreath of smoke which might herald life to them.

At last, after eight weeks of the most terrible mental and physical suffering, the Cambria, a steam liner, was sighted. The signal of distress, which had been set at the first warning, was answered and a few minutes later the half-famished shipwrecked sailors were on board the big vessel.

There they were cared for as decently and carefully as the facilities at hand would permit, but so serious was the condition of all the men that it was necessary to transfer them to the hospital as soon as the ship reached Valparaiso. Two of the survivors were found to be beyond human help, however, and sank into their death.

WORKMAN IMPRISONED IN HEATING BOILER

HORRIBLE EXPERIENCE TURNS HEAD OF COAL BLACK HAIR TO GLISTENING WHITE.

BOSTON. Incorporated in a big boiler, undoubtedly which another was unable to realize the fate in store which would have meant a horrible death if his escape had not occurred but a few minutes longer to the surprise of his co-workers, the Boston Herald.

He does not let the details of his experience. The boat, which was coal black, was being overhauled, a sort of furnace where

At a dock at Hobart, Ark., a new

steamship had been built in a stone shore. Wood, water, and McDaniel was called upon to repair the damage. After fixing the first hole, he got to the bottom of the hull. He worked until 11 o'clock at night, and again until 4 o'clock in the morning, but he could not find the hole. He was exhausted, but he continued to work, and at 11 o'clock he had discovered the hole and had started to mend it. He was still working when the vessel began to sink with horrible roar. He realized that the vessel had indeed struck the rock, and he had to leave the ship, and he was swimming in the water and drifting away from the boat.

Two of the six men who had lived in the boat in the little craft did not survive. One had come to them and Kildarren spent many weeks in a hospital at Valparaiso recovering from the effects of his terrible experience. No word ever has been received from another boat which put off from the Starbuck when she was abandoned, and it is believed that the co-captain died of starvation, thirst and exposure after weeks of vain waiting and hope that help might come to them.

It was when she was adrift in the Pacific that was well on her way across the thousands of miles of sea which separated her from her destination that the gale ran into the storm and it ended to capsize and break the intense suffering to all and death to many of her crew. The storm broke in the latter part of the month and on the last day of that month the masts were twisted out by the wind and she was left to follow, was fogged and helpless in the turbulent seas.

For 16 days the men stuck to the doomed craft, but at last, when it seemed every man would be lost, they were left no choice but to take to the little boats and trust to being picked up by some passing vessel.

A full thousand miles separated them from the nearest shore, that of South America. As the last man left the doomed bulk of the Starbuck the

HAS WILD RIDE ON FLAT CAR

Gale Blows Second John Gilpin Down Grade Thirty-Five Miles.

ABILENE, Tex. A citizen of Abilene and a tramp-bandit captain whose adventures are related in Cowper's famous poem, "The Jovial Journey of John Gilpin," showing how he went further than he intended, and came safe home again, is not the only person who has had such experience.

Henry James, catcher of the Farnum and Merchant bank of Abilene, and a flat car on which he was walking, were blown 35 miles down grade on a Texas plateau, farther than he intended, and he too came safe home again, with his hair full of sand and his neck chapped from the biting wind.

At the time the catcher mounted the car it was attached to a construction train on the Roscoe & Snyder railroad, but a few minutes later it was side tracked. Then came a furious gale and away went James and his flat car as only things can go before the

NEW GAS EXPLOSIVE

GASCO-NITRITE IS LATEST RIVAL OF DYNAMITE.

Produced by Liquid Action Upon Well-Known Substances—St. Louis Man Is Inventor—Would Sell to Government.

ST. LOUIS. An invention that is expected to revolutionize destructive explosives came to light when Ralston T. Williams, professor of engineering at the Christian Brothers College, was excited into collaboration with Richard H. Murphy, a former mine operator, and E. F. Foster, architect and hotel keeper. The invention was to devise means for the production of an explosive substance with which Murphy has been experimenting for five years. Six months ago he hit upon the secret, although he had worked on the same theory since he gave up mining.

Murphy claims that the explosive has five times the destructive power of dynamite and it is instant and there is almost little smoke. It comes in granules, is easily ignited, and burns with a bright flame. Other inventors have not yet come up with a substance that is comparable. The new explosive that Murphy has produced looks like gunpowder.

The explosive is caused by a metal bar equal in size to the inventor claims that it is impossible for the metal to melt without being heated. He said that he was waiting for a reply from Prof. Alfred Nobel's patent office of Cambridge, England, to get his patent, and that he intended to sell it to the government. He said he would make over \$100,000 if he sold it to the government.

One of the inventors claimed to the inventor is that the gas can be made from charcoal and it is more efficient than the explosives now used in war. It will replace dynamite and powder entirely. Murphy said, and for this reason we are not going to have it patented. The name is produced by liquid action upon substances which are well known.

Prof. Williams, when speaking of the invention, said that he thought it the greatest of the age. It will then great development by all time," he declared, as the mines can be made more productive and stone quarried with less difficulty. I have worked with Mr. Murphy on the scheme for some time, and it was only the other day, when taking Mr. Leman in with us, that we decided to make the thing public. We believe we have a great invention, and are willing to turn it over to the government. I have worked past year at building ways up for the United States, and know the advantages the invention will have. It will be of a revolution in the methods of war, as well as in the claiming of earth's treasures.

What we want to do, said Mr. Murphy, is to have the government look into the invention and then send us \$10,000 and give us a chance to prove the power of the explosive. If the authorities are willing we will give a demonstration near the fortresses.

Murphy resides on Exchange Avenue. A few days ago an agent of the Dry Point Powder company called on Murphy and Williams, in these states, and wanted to learn of the invention. Murphy said that they did not consider his visit important, as they did not contemplate selling to a company.

TALKS WITH TONGUE CUT OUT

Foolish Doctors in Regaining Powers of Speech and Living.

NEW YORK. Four years after his tongue was cut out to check the spread of cancer, Thomas Maguire, known as the "lame man" of the Oneida Street and Bijou theaters in this city, can talk and sing and eat solid food much like other people. His case attracted the attention of medical authorities here and elsewhere several years ago, following the operation upon him on March 12, 1904.

Maguire says he was given one year to live in the physician whom the operation was performed. He had smoked 20 cigars a day for 20 years before that. The doctor told him he could never talk again, once his tongue was cut out at the roots. Subsequently he tried all his efforts to talk after the operation and how they were crowned with ultimate success.

It was about a month after the operation that Maguire first tried to talk. He said he was thinking how hard it would be never to talk again and as he thought he suddenly cried out, "I can't stand it."

Then Maguire says he knew he could talk and he soon surprised his doctor by doing so.

Maguire was regarded as a physical wonder and his case aroused much interest.

You cannot paint the lily and the rose. But the effects that Lily and Rose can get with the rouge stick are wonderful to behold.—Chicago Record Herald.